[*English*]

Production of Steel

7131. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI:
SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of steel produced during the last two years, and the projected outlay for the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the steps different steel plants proposed to be taken in this regard;

(c) whether any task force has been constituted to raise the production of iron ore by 1995-96; and

(d) if so, the main features of the scheme prepared by the task force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). The total quantity of finished steel produced during the last two years and the projected outlay for the 8th Five Year Plan are:-

1990-91	13.53 million tonnes
1991-92 (upto February, 1992)	12.77 million tonnes
8th Plan proposed outlay for the Ministry of Steel (1992-97)	Rs. 24,756.19 crores

The proposed plan outlay being inter-alia for additions, modifications, and replacements of the existing facilities; already approved continuing schemes; modernisations and for the new schemes proposed to be taken up during the 8th plan period, the main plants seek to realise there targets.

(c) and (d). A Task Force on Iron Ore has been constituted in the Ministry of Steel, with the following terms of reference:

(i) To assess the likely demand and availability of iron ore upto 2000 AD.

(ii) To recommend appropriate linkages for domestic users and for exprots.

(iii) To suggest suitable measures to upgrade technology and augment production both in the private and public sector.

Electronic Telephone Exchanges In Kerala

7132. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of telephone exchanges in Kerala to be replaced by electronic during the Eighth Plan period; and

(b) the number out of them to be replaced during 1992-93?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The draft 8th Plan objectives for replacement of telephone exchanges all over the country including Kerala are:

- Replace life expired and worn out switches as and when they become life expired.

- Replace all strowger MAX-III exchanges by electronic exchanges.

- Replace all line finder (L/F) type MAX-II exchanges by electronic exchanges.

This implies replacement of 180 MAX III exchanges and 69 MAX-II L/F type exchanges during the 8th Plan by electronic exchanges.

(b) Replacement of around 40 MAX -III exchanges and 10 MAX-II L/F type exchanges has been proposed during 1992-93 subject to timely availability of resources.

[*Translation*]

HP TV Transmitters in Rajasthan, Gujarat and Punjab

7133. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA DEVISINGH PATIL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated a scheme to set up high powered TV transmitters at Barmer, Jaisalmer, Anupgarh in Rajasthan, Fazilka in Punjab and Kutch in Gujarat;

(b) if so, by when these transmistters will start functioning; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b). Whereas projects relating to establishment of high power TV transmitters at Barmer & Jaisalmer in Rajasthan, Bhuj in Kutch region of Gujarat and Fezilka in Punjab are at various stages of implementation, a high power TV transmitter is also envisaged to be set up at Anupgarh in Rajasthan. As per present indications, the high power TV transmitters at Jaisalmer and Fezilka are expected to be commissioned during 1993-94 and 1995-96 respectively and at Barmer and Bhuj in 1994-95.

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Late Delivery of Telegram in Kerala

7134. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the telegram messages are reaching late in Kerala region; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir, while most of the telegrams are delivered in time, the Governemnt is aware of delays occuring in some cases due to manual handling at transit stations.

(b) In order to further improve the telegraph services, a modernisation plan is already under implementation. The plan envisages induction of Store & Forward Message Switching Systems to eliminate transit delays, better terminal equipment's like Electronic Teleprinters, PC based Formatted Terminals, Electronic Key-Boards/Concentrators etc.

For Kerala State, two Store & Forward Telegraph Systems (SFT-141) have already been provided at Ernakulam. Besides, 8 Terminals from Message Switching Sys-